



Atty. Dkt. No. 078148-0104

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BT

3-13-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Tilo CHRIST et al.
Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
ASCERTAINING AN INSTITUTION FOR
MAKING A MEDICAL ASSESSMENT
Appl. No.: 09/923,430
Filing Date: 08/08/2001
Examiner: A. Kalinowski
Art Unit: 3626

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. Copies of two documents (WO 98/41943 and WO 00/70529) cited in the European Search Report were submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement on April 30, 2002, and therefore are not being submitted with the current Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the European Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner.

An English-language translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609). An English language abstract is attached.

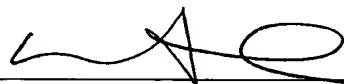
Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 17-Dec-2002

By



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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

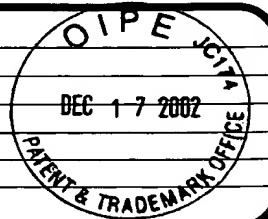
Date Submitted:

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/923,430
 Filing Date 08/08/2001
 First Named Inventor Tilo CHRIST et al.
 Group Art Unit 3626
 Examiner Name A. Kalinowski
 Attorney Docket Number 078148-0104



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,655,084		PINSKY ET AL.	08/05/1997	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A2	DE	199 55 211	A1	SIEMENS AG	05/31/2001		ABS
	A3	WO	00/03343		ASTERION, INC.	01/20/2000		

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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A4	SITTIG ET AL., "A computer-based outpatient clinical referral system," <i>International Journal of Medical Informatics</i> (August 1999), Vol. 55, No. 2, pp. 149-158, Elsevier Scientific Publishers, Shannon, IR, XP004262434, ISSN: 1386-5056.	
	A5	WALLACE ET AL., "Telemedicine in the NHS for the Millennium and Beyond," <i>Postgraduate Medical Journal</i> (December 1998), Vol. 74, pp. 721-728, The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine, XP002215960.	

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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.